

King, as we heard Bob deliver these words:

A nation defines itself in many ways; in the promises it makes and the programs it enacts, the dreams it enshrines, or the doors it slams shut. Thanks to Dr. King, America wrote new laws to strike down old barriers. She built bridges instead of walls . . . there is nothing partisan about justice. It is conservative as the Constitution, as liberal as Lincoln, as radical as Jefferson's sweeping assertion that all of God's creation is equal in His eyes.

I could not agree more.

I am very proud of the rich and vibrant African American Heritage in my home state of North Carolina. Indeed, Mr. President, our history is full of trailblazers, including, Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeil, Ezell Blair, Jr., and David Richmond, known as the Greensboro Four because of their February 1960 sit-in at a Woolworth Store counter in Greensboro, North Carolina. They, along with others, laid the foundation for the America we strive to be, where all people are given an opportunity regardless of the color of their skin.

We have come a long way since then. Today, African Americans and minorities serve in every aspect of business, politics, and the legal profession. They're represented in judgeships throughout the country. John Wesley Winters, Sr., who died just a few weeks ago at the age of 84, was the first black Raleigh, NC, City Council member and one of the first black state senators of the 20th century. He was known as a bridge-builder between the races. And in 1992, my good friend Eva Clayton became the first African American woman to represent North Carolina in Congress. And just last year, Mr. President, I was privileged to support Allyson Duncan, confirmed as the first African American woman to serve on the 4th Circuit Court.

Higher education is another area where strides have been made. North Carolina is home to 11 historically black colleges and universities, including Shaw University in Raleigh, founded in 1865 and the oldest H.B.C.U. in the South. And I was honored to give the commencement address and receive an honorary degree several years ago from Livingstone College, another outstanding historically black college in my hometown of Salisbury, NC, where Dr. Algeania Freeman currently serves as the first woman president. And I am so very proud that my husband Bob is serving as chairman of a \$50 million dollar fundraising campaign at Bennett College in Greensboro, one of only two historically black women's colleges in America. In fact, Bennett's president, Dr. Johnetta Cole, currently serves as national chair of the United Way, and in that capacity has worked with HILLARY CLINTON and me on legislation to create a nationwide 2-1-1 line, a one-stop community service referral system.

This month we honor the steadfast commitment of so many people, many of whom gave their lives so that Afri-

can Americans could have the same opportunities as any other citizen in our Nation.

Today, as the Nation continues to celebrate Black History Month, I salute this heritage and the fine citizens who have contributed to North Carolina's greatness. May we continue their work on behalf of all Americans.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FITZGERALD). Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROTECTION OF LAWFUL COMMERCE IN ARMS ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, there have been a number of conversations regarding the gun manufacturers liability bill. Those discussions were about the likelihood of reaching an agreement to allow the Senate to consider that bill under an orderly time agreement. Now it appears that we will be unable to reach an agreement on the bill and there is an objection to even proceeding to that measure.

With that said, I now ask unanimous consent that at a time determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 363, S. 1805, the Protection of Lawful Commerce In Arms Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. On behalf of Senator REED of Rhode Island, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. FRIST. I now withdraw the pending motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The leader has that right.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. FRIST. I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 363, S. 1805, and I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 363, S. 1805, a bill to prohibit civil liability actions from being brought or continued against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages resulting from the misuse of their products by others.

Bill Frist, Orrin Hatch, Mitch McConnell, Larry Craig, Jim Talent, John Ensign, John Cornyn, Conrad Burns, Saxby Chambliss, Craig Thomas, Don

Nickles, Rick Santorum, Trent Lott, John E. Sununu, Mike Crapo, Lamar Alexander, Wayne Allard.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the live quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. I now withdraw the motion to proceed to S. 1805.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has that right. The motion is withdrawn.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, for the information of my colleagues and those watching, we have a scheduled cloture vote on the motion to proceed to the OB/GYN medical liability bill tomorrow afternoon. As I stated earlier, along with many of my colleagues, I hope that cloture will be invoked and that the Senate will be able to consider this bill. If we are prevented from even debating this legislation, it is our hope to take up the bipartisan gun liability bill. Given the earlier objection, it was necessary to file that cloture motion to proceed tonight. So the vote will occur on the gun liability bill on Wednesday of this week.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SENATOR JOHN GLENN

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, as the days go by, I think it is more and more important to recognize that Senators have friends on both sides of this aisle. One of my great friends is Senator John Glenn and his wife Annie. They have been very important people in my life. I have great memories of times I spent with John Glenn privately.

For instance, I distinctly remember the time John and Annie asked my wife Catherine, my daughter Lilly, and me to go on their boat. It is called the SENIRAM. Few people, other than the occupant of the Chair, would recognize that name, but if you spell it backwards, you will get the point. We had a wonderful day with them. I have had wonderful times throughout the years we have known each other since John and Annie came to the Senate.

Recently, I had the occasion to attend a dinner in his honor. Our distinguished minority leader TOM DASCHLE was the keynote speaker. I think the remarks Senator DASCHLE made about John Glenn and his career were most appropriate and some of the finest I have heard.

I ask unanimous consent that the remarks of the distinguished Democratic